



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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\$5.925 Million Settlement Reached Over Victor Industries Site in Chico

Sacramento - - The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced a \$5.925 million settlement with the responsible parties (RPs) for the former Victor Industries/20th Street manufacturing facility located in Chico.

"This settlement will enable the DTSC to move forward in our current effort to address the contamination associated with this site, and provide reimbursement of taxpayer funds spent in the past", said B.B. Blevins, DTSC's Chief Deputy Director.

The settlement document was filed with the United States District Court, Eastern District of California on June 4, 2004. Under the terms of the settlement, DTSC received \$5.925 million and the majority of these funds will be used by DTSC to fund remaining investigation and cleanup work including an interim groundwater pump and treat system.

The former Victor Industries facility is located at 365 East 20th Street in Chico. The site was used as a manufacturing facility for the production of flexible (toothpaste) tubes and aerosol cans made out of lead and aluminum. From 1958 to 1984 trichloroethylene (TCE), an industrial solvent, was used at the facility to clean product-line machinery. The solvent waste was dumped on the ground outside the manufacturing facility. The disposal practices at the facility have resulted in a groundwater plume over one mile long.

A Remedial Action Order was issued for the site in July 1989. Several phases of investigation work were completed between 1990 and 1994 culminating in the installation of a drinking water pipeline for the Stanley Park neighborhood near the facility. After completing the pipeline, the RPs stopped cleanup work at the site. DTSC filed a lawsuit against the RPs in 1993.

DTSC will now begin implementing cleanup at the site including interim remedial measures designed to address the groundwater contamination and additional soil characterization work.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.